



LOS ALTOS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

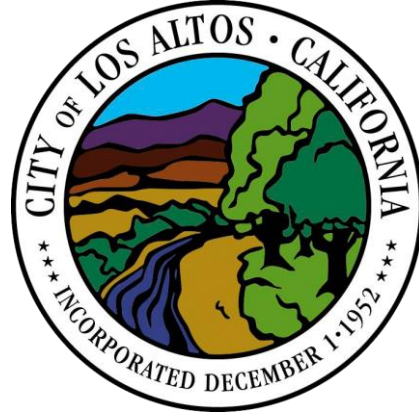
ANN HEPENSTAL
COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR
CITY OF LOS ALTOS

LOS ALTOS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

- Where we've been: a history lesson
- Where we are:
 - City Emergency Planning Structure
 - Community Emergency Preparedness
- Q&A



SOME BASICS:



City of Los Altos
Santa Clara County
Est. Dec 1952
Approx 30K residents



Los Altos Police Dept
32 Sworn Officers
17 professional civilian staff.
Total Public Safety Operating
Budget (Police, Emergency
Preparedness and Fire) for
Fiscal Year 2020-2021:
\$20,593,895



Santa Clara County Fire Dept
provides emergency response for
City of Los Altos

WHERE WE'VE BEEN: A HISTORY LESSON

WHERE WE'VE BEEN: A HISTORY LESSON

WWII & the Cold War

- Calif War Council
- Local War Councils -> Disaster Councils
- Workers' Comp for volunteers

RESOLUTION NO. 71

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ALTOS
RELATIVE TO WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE FOR REGISTERED
VOLUNTEER "DISASTER SERVICE WORKERS"

WHEREAS, Section 1599.1 of the Military and Veterans Code,
Chapter 104, Statutes 1946, First Extraordinary Session,
provides:

"The California State Disaster Council shall establish
by rule and regulation various classes of disaster
service workers and the scope of the duties of each
class. The California State Council shall also
adopt rules and regulations prescribing the manner in
which disaster service workers of each class are to
be registered. All such rules and regulations shall
be designed to facilitate the paying of workmen's
compensation," and

WHEREAS, The California State Disaster Council on April 4, 1946,
adopted rules and regulations establishing classes of disaster
service workers, the scope of duties of each class and the
manner of registration of such volunteer workers; and

WHEREAS, Section 1599.2 of the Military and Veterans Code,
Chapter 104, Statutes 1946, First Extraordinary Session,
provides:

Section 2. Group of Operating Services. There is hereby
created a group of operating services. For the purposes of civil
defense planning and organization, the chief of each operating
service within this group shall be responsible to the director
through the assistant director.

Within this group there shall be the following civil defense
and disaster services:

- (1) Engineering service, which shall include public utilities,
public works and shelters, and rescue service.
- (2) Health and medical service, which shall include public
health, medical, hospitals, special weapons defense and
animal protection;
- (3) Fire service.
- (4) Emergency welfare service, which shall include mass care
(food, clothing, shelter), registration and information,
welfare aid and evacuation; and
- (5) Law enforcement service, which shall include law enforcement,
traffic control, sabotage and general protection.

The director shall appoint a chief of each service, except as
hereinafter provided. The Chief of the Fire Department of the Los Altos
Fire Protection District shall be chief of the fire service. The Chief
of Police of the City of Los Altos shall be the chief of the law
enforcement service. The City Engineer of the City of Los Altos shall
be chief of the engineering service. The Health Officer of the County
of Santa Clara and a person designated by him shall be chief of the
health and medical service.

1955 Ordinances:
Los Altos Civil Defense
and Disaster
Organization and
qualified Disaster Service
Worker volunteers for
Workers' Comp



1967 Ordinance:
Amended the 1955
Disaster Ordinance

1987: Los Altos
Emergency
Preparedness
Committee
Develops City EP Plan

1987 Ordinance:
Repeals the Los Altos
Disaster Council



2002 – 2006
CERT training by
Los Altos Police
Dept



But then—
Police Dept.
ended CERT
training

WHERE WE'VE BEEN: A HISTORY LESSON

2013: Community member Sherie Dodsworth restarted community EP!



Started the Block Action Team (BAT)



2013: CERT training resumed in Los Altos! Led by CERT trainers from neighboring cities, then by local volunteers



2016: CERT training Led by Santa Clara County Fire Dept.



2017: Los Altos PREPARE requested City fund a part-time Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

2017: City hired EP Coordinator and assumes EP program—now Los Altos PREPARES

2019: City ordinance

- Disaster Council
- Mutual Aid
- Workers' Comp

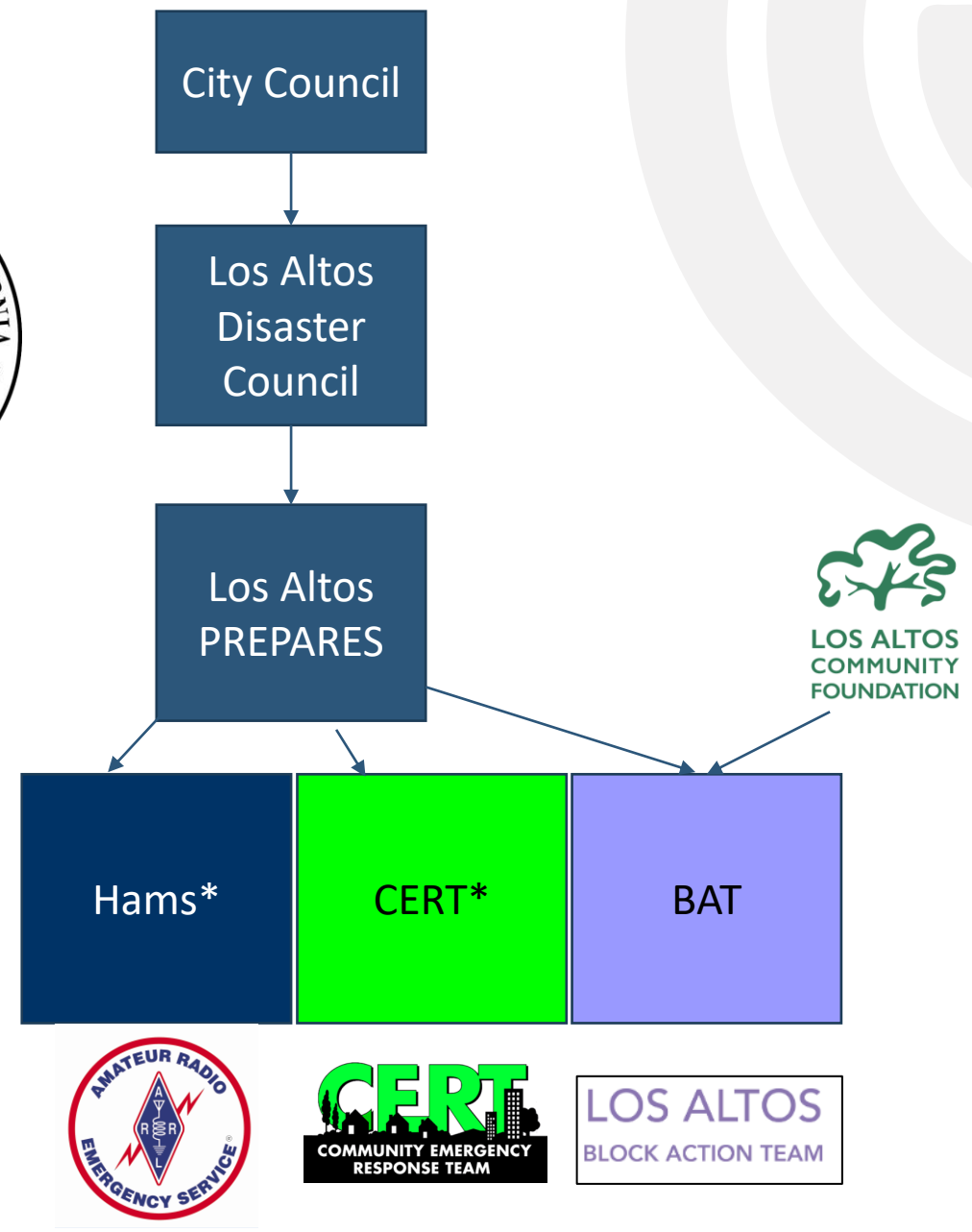
Approach: "Whole Community" Bench-marking Best practices

Recruited community members to work on emergency preparedness!

Gained support of the Los Altos Community Foundation: sponsored Los Altos PREPARE Program



LOS ALTOS PREPARES



* DSW volunteers

WHERE WE ARE

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLANNING

Hazards and Vulnerabilities

Government

Law Enforcement
Public Works
Fire and Rescue
EMS
Emergency Operations Plan

Community & Businesses

Know evacuation routes, warnings,
info sources
Emergency preparedness and plans
First aid and response skills

Work together in responding to and recovering from emergencies

Most cities take a
similar approach

LOS ALTOS
BLOCK ACTION TEAM



WHEN A DISASTER EVENT OCCURS...

**HOW LONG UNTIL THE CITY
WILL BE ABLE TO RESPOND?**

WHEN A DISASTER EVENT OCCURS...

**HOW LONG UNTIL THE CITY
WILL BE ABLE TO RESPOND?**

It Depends.

Could be hours... or even days.

Los Altos employees begin their commutes in many corners of the Bay Area.

City employees (full-time)	Average commute
All	23.9 miles
City Hall	19 miles
Police Dept	28.8 miles
Municipal Services	26 miles

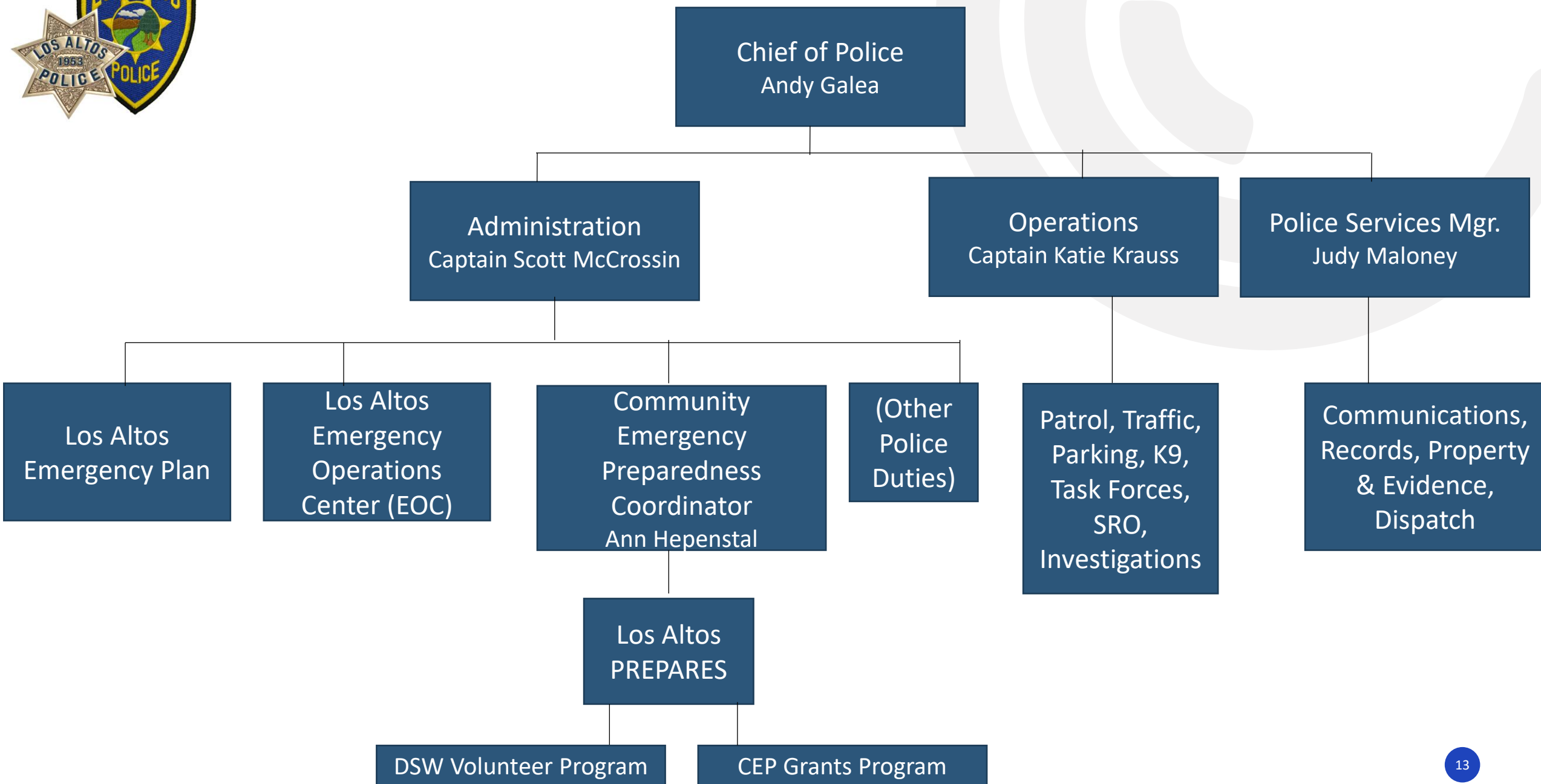
Most cities have a similar profile

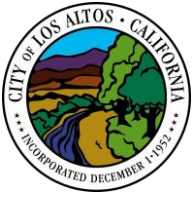
Community Preparedness is vital!





CITY OF LOS ALTOS EMERGENCY PLANNING STRUCTURE





LOS ALTOS EMERGENCY PLANNING

Preparing, responding and recovering from emergencies:

- “All Hazards Approach”
- Standardized approach to the command, control, & coordination of emergency response
 - *ICS: Incident Command System*
 - *SEMS: Standardized Emergency Management System*
 - *NIMS: National Incident Management System*
- Master Mutual Aid Agreement
- City Emergency Operations Plan
- Emergency Operations Center (EOC) drill



COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS VOLUNTEERS



BAT –Block Action Team* leaders
Neighborhood groups vary in name between cities, but the principle is the same: build community spirit, help each other, + prepare



CERT – the Community Emergency Response Team



Hams—amateur radio operators support emergency communications



Registered DSW Volunteers		
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
CERT	65	75
Ham	36	50

Volunteers train to be ready to support the City’s response:
assess the damage, help their neighbors, provide basic first aid and
search and rescue, support emergency communications

*Block Action Team is a managed program of Los Altos Community Foundation in partnership with the City of Los Altos

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS VOLUNTEERS READY TO HELP THEIR NEIGHBORS!



BAT –Block Action Team* leaders

Over 240 BAT leaders in 101 BATs covering 25% of the City

After event: will check on their neighborhoods, and compile damage assessment/injury information www.losaltosbat.org



CERT – the Community Emergency Response Team

After event: will partner with BATs, check on their neighborhoods, and compile damage assessment/injury information. May be directed to other duties in the City. www.losaltosca.gov/cert



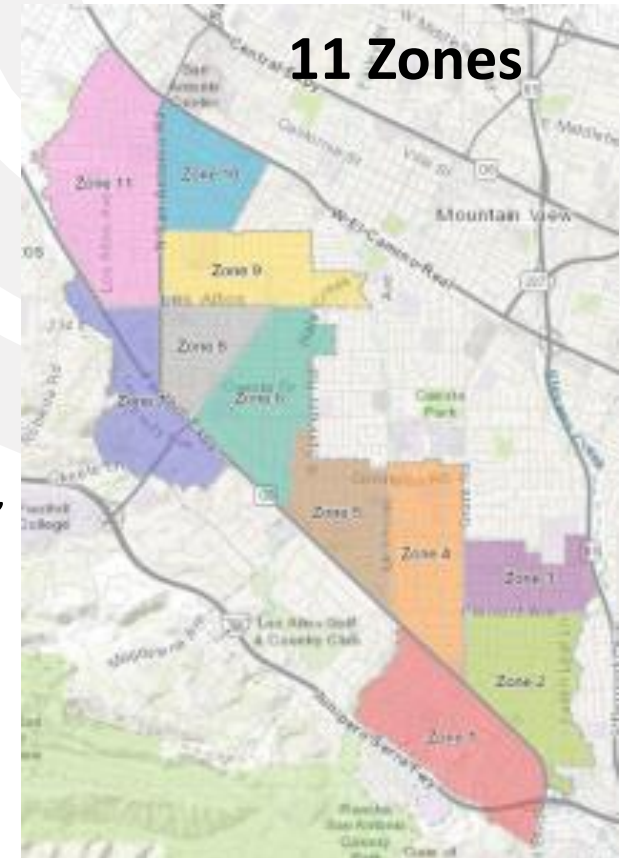
Hams—amateur radio operators

After event: will get on the air right away.

Some hams will run packet radio stations and report damage assessment data to City EOC Planning Section

If needed, hams may be stationed in the EOC or directed to other duties in the City. www.laares.org

11 Zones



Zone map

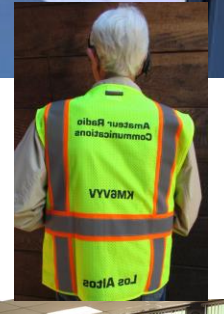
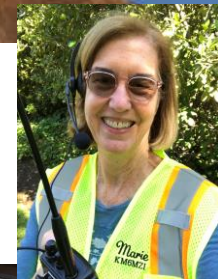
<http://losaltosbat.org/map>

Damage assessment form

<https://bit.ly/3kQZRwn>

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: OUR WORK

- Disaster Service Worker Volunteer Program
 - City Council: new ordinance in 2019 established the Los Altos Disaster Council
 - Volunteers enrolled as Disaster Service Workers; ID cards issued; established DSW record-keeping
- Los Altos PREPARES Steering Committee established for input on projects, budget, volunteer programs, etc.
- City Council provided funding:
 - Los Altos PREPARES budget: funded ham and CERT equipment, outreach materials, et. al.
 - Community & Emergency Preparedness Grants program: Motivated residents to develop neighborhood-based projects, register for CERT training, register as BATs, establish ham radio stations, et. al.
- Emergency Preparedness (EP) outreach
 - Business community
 - Faith-based Organizations
 - Relationships with multiple community organizations, school districts, senior residences; Library; Museum
 - Sponsored Ham Cram; Jamboree-on-the-Air; Girl Scout and BSA Scout EP projects
 - Emergency preparedness exhibit at Los Altos History Museum, along with educational workshops and earthquake fair
 - Ongoing educational programs – during COVID, delivering via webinar
www.losaltosca.gov/prepares



OUR COMMUNITY PREPARES

Acts of Nature,
Then and Now

California is a state shaped by geologic action and natural forces. Today's residents live with the risk of wildfires, floods, and earthquakes large and small. As we mark the 30th anniversary of the Loma Prieta earthquake that shook the Bay Area in 1989, we reflect on whether we're ready for the next big one, and recognize the increased damage potential of natural disasters in our area.

Community members in Los Altos and Los Altos Hills have stepped forward to help their neighbors during past disasters, and now help to prepare their communities for future ones. Local leaders have formed volunteer emergency preparedness committees and teams, shaped local building codes, and taught their neighbors about preparedness. All local residents should invest the time and effort for emergency preparedness at home and at work.

The City of Los Altos, the Los Altos History Museum, the Los Altos Community Foundation, and Cal Water are pleased to bring this exhibition to our local community. We hope hearing your neighbors' stories will inspire you to get prepared!



EXHIBIT WITH LOS ALTOS HISTORY MUSEUM

OUR COMMUNITY PREPARES

Acts of Nature,
Then and Now

OCT 17, 2019 –
JAN 19, 2020
EXHIBIT & WORKSHOPS



COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: OBSERVATIONS

- City Support
 - Backing of elected leaders, City Staff
 - Funding!
- Volunteer leaders! (CERT, Ham, BAT)
- Fire Dept support
 - Training by knowledgeable experts!
 - Invaluable stories, experience
- Creativity in outreach
 - “Go where the people are”
 - Get community members to teach
 - New, unexpected, exciting

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT
PERSONAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (PEP)
2019**



When disaster strikes...
It may be several days before emergency services arrive in your neighborhood.

This FREE 3-hour training class teaches individuals and families how to prepare to be self-reliant the first 72 hours following a major disaster.

This class includes information on types of disasters, home and workplace preparedness, fire safety, treating life-threatening conditions, and how to build a disaster supplies kit.

Registration: FREE
Register via [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)

DATE	LOCATION	TIME
January 8 Tuesday	Campbell Community Center Roosevelt Room - Q80 1 W. Campbell Avenue, Campbell	6:00 to 9:15 p.m.
February 23 Saturday	Los Altos Hills 26379 Fremont Road	
March 19 Tuesday	Grant Park Comm Multipurpose 1575 Holt Avenue	
April 20 Saturday	Joan Pisani Comm Multipurpose 19655 Allendale Ave	
May 9 Thursday	Los Gatos/Mont Police Operations 15900 Los Gatos Blvd	
June 12 Wednesday	Campbell Comm Roosevelt Room 1 W. Campbell Avenue	
July 25 Thursday	Los Altos Hills 26379 Fremont Road	
August 24	Quinlan Community Center	



MORE INFO

- Los Altos PREPARES
 - losaltosca.gov/emergencyprep Info on training, communications plans, emergency kits, CERT and more
 - Webinars and training events: www.losaltosca.gov/prepares
- Block Action Team: www.losaltosbat.org
 - Zone Map <http://losaltosbat.org/map>
 - Damage Assessment Form <https://bit.ly/3kQZRwn>
 - Tips for BAT leaders
- Los Altos CERT: www.losaltosca.gov/cert
- Ham Radio: www.laares.org
- Santa Clara County Fire Dept: www.sccfd.org

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION



Thank you!



THANK YOU!



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LOSALTOSCA.GOV/EMERGENCYPREP